

As an shortwave listener, Amateur radio operator and member of Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), I must communicate that the FCC's support of Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) is not in the best interests of the United States citizens. Our frequency spectrum is an invaluable and irreplaceable resource. Unless the FCC defends this spectrum from man made interference, such as BPL, that resource will be lost forever.

Clearly, this is not just a US problem either. These frequencies allow for atmospheric propagation well outside our borders. Also, the effects are cumulative, therefore as the network grows so will the ambient noise level both locally and through atmospheric propagation. Regarding the claim that frequencies can be notched and power levels can be adjusted, it is impractical to expect that the power companies can notch frequencies to avoid interfere since often shortwave listeners and HAM operators move across wide RF spectrum looking for proper conditions in a matter of seconds. Can you imagine having to call the power company every time you wanted to change channel on your television? If not, how can you expect hundreds of thousands of RF spectrum users to do that. Since this harmful interference can propagate through the atmosphere and interfere hundreds of miles from their source as well, victims may not even be able to contact a local agency to solve the problem.

Even our emergencies services will be negatively affected since often long distance emergency communications are conducted on the frequencies being considered for BLP. If BLP is allowed to continue, it will be the RF polluter of our nation and the world, ignoring the freedoms and safety of our people.

As we move forward with broadband technologies, clearly the FCC should not do so at the expense of other licensed, protected spectrum. For these reasons, and I am sure many more, which the Amateur Radio Relay League has put forward, I must advice you to immediately remove FCC support for BLP.